

IS STEREOGRAPHY STANDING STILL...DYING...OR IS IT--

growing UP?

By FREDERIC N. ADAMS

Isn't it about time that stereography should come of age? Like an overly protected child we have been afraid to go out into the unknown world. Stereo is just that; an unknown world of new horizons, new ideas, where shapes and forms are strangely and excitingly different.

We stereographers have been too long dependent on the planar photographer and the planar artist for our concepts of composition and aesthetics. This dependency, this slavish obedience to the old "laws" has seriously hampered our development as artists in what should be a new art form.

Our first step must be to establish a new approach to *three dimensional composition*. Basically all planar composition has to be based on the arrangement of forms on a flat plane. Equally valid is the basic assumption that stereoscopy is based on the arrangement of volumes! However, besides the vast difference between a flat form and a cubic volume, perhaps the most important difference in concepts is that space is no longer treated negatively, but as an equally important unit of the volumes used in our arrangements. There can be no empty space in a stereo composition. Space must be considered as part of the over-all composition to be balanced as a volume against other volumes in the arrangement.

It is a shameful denial of our medium to make a stereogram based on planar concepts. Perhaps showing depth, but utterly lacking in dynamic tensions and completely unbalanced in its organization of volumes.

Our second step should be a thorough study of the sculptor and the architect... our companions in spatial development. What have they been doing? More important, what have they been saying? For we must *develop a language*, a terminology, so that we may critically evaluate and analyze our creations. Borrowing, of course, from all the other fields of fine art, but when necessary, giving them new meanings. This is not to say that an artistic "gobbledygook" is necessary to discuss a stereogram. It is a must, however, to be able to communicate what one feels about a picture to someone else. If, as we are creating a new art form, it must be judged and evaluated with new art terms; or at least the old terms should be used with a new frame of reference.

This is not an easy task to set for our-

selves. It will not be the creation of one person. Rather, it will develop from the labors of many, each contributing his share to shape and form a new aesthetics of stereography. It will take time; after all, the philosophy of planar art has taken centuries to form.

It will be exciting, and each valid contribution, each step forward will give the creator the solid satisfaction, the pleasure of new horizons that is the reward of the pioneer.

PSA 25TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 1 - 4, 1958

FILM: (Cont. from page 2)

From the foregoing it is easily understandable that aluminum frames, such as Emde, or glass, or aluminum masks, etc., have nothing to do with these pesky troubles of slide mounting and maintaining. Any slide mounting system that uses no mask and requires film and glass to be in direct and constant contact naturally provides no protection against, or freedom from Newton Rings, if the slightest moisture is present.

You will also readily see that sealed-in film is not desirable. While it prevents some moisture from getting in the slide, it also seals in any possible moisture present in mask, film, or glass, and would constantly fog or steam your pictures.

To those of you who have been bothered with Newton Rings, fogging and steaming of slides, etc., the Emde Products, Inc. has the following suggestions. Expose your slides to dry warmth (not heat, just warmth), such as air heater outlet, for sufficient time to be certain slides dry out thoroughly. Thereafter, store your slides in such place and in such manner that they can be kept dry. Repeat the above drying-out process just prior to showing of slides. Be very careful never to let slides become hot—just warm. A good preventative against slides re-collecting moisture is to put some dehumidifier in slide files and drawers, such as a small bag or envelope of silica gel, or just common blotters.

We hope this information will be helpful to you and others in the understanding of problems that have been, and probably always will be, present in glass mounted slides.



AUGUST
1958
VOL. III
NO. 8

NEWS

Letters— TO THE MSC MEMBERSHIP

It has been a great pleasure for me to have been the Editor of the MSC News for the past year and a half, but it is now time for me to retire. I have enjoyed working on the paper, seeing it grow, and making the many associations that have resulted from it. It has been a trying task at times, but also a great source of pleasure each month when the paper finally was in the mail.

I would like to thank the following members for their help and cooperation:

Phyllis Galician, typist and severe critic, who was always available when needed;
Adelaide Galician, contributor and severe critic, who has been most helpful in many ways;

Ronnie Jenkins, who gave up his time each month to drive 30 miles to pick up the paper from the printer;

Sunny Jenkins, who each month addressed, sealed, and mailed all the copies of the paper;

Walter Goldsmith, contributor and severe critic, who as an AM has devoted much time to writing for the paper and doing research on all the incorrect material that inadvertently slipped in;

Lee Hon, who as president of the club kept me posted with contributions; and

Harriet Hartman, who has pitched in and helped with typing when we were desperate.

So, beginning with the September issue, PHYLLIS GALICIAN will assume the burdens of the office of Editor and I know she will do an admirable job!

With my best wishes,

Louise

LOUISE JACOBSON

You have bestowed a great honor upon me in electing me to the presidency of your club, and I am deeply appreciative of your faith in my ability to assume the responsibilities of this office. At the same time, by your action, you have given me a tough job to do; and a real challenge to match the excellent leadership of our past president,

Lee Hon. To carry on at the same high level in club activities, as he maintained, I will need the help of all of you.

In case you wonder in what way you can be of real assistance, here are a few suggestions, none of which are new:

Membership - To keep the club growing, we need new members both regular and associate. How about every member getting a new member to join MSC? Of course, more than one would be great, but in order not to make it too hard, just set one as your goal.

Program - Your suggestions as to programs for our monthly meetings, as to field trips, as to subjects for workshop activities and other items of interest are earnestly desired by the appropriate committees. And how about you appearing on one of our programs or sponsoring a program event?

MSC News - The editor of the MSC News is always looking for copy for the monthly paper. How about writing an article, item, or letter to the editor on any subject you believe would be of interest to MSC News readers?

Committees - The operation of a club of our size requires a number of committees to attend to the several facets of our activities. For these committees there is always need for chairmen and members. How about it? There are a number of vacancies to be filled.

The four areas just mentioned in which your assistance and cooperation would be heartily welcomed, by no means completes the list but are typical of opportunities open to all. And I use the word "opportunities" advisedly. What you get out of a group activity such as our club is in proportion to what you yourself put into it. So why not resolve to derive the maximum of benefit and pleasure from your investment in MSC? The opportunities are at hand.

My very best greetings to all.

Most cordially,

Paul
PAUL DARNELL

Published monthly by the
METROPOLITAN STEREO CLUB
P. O. Box 1861
Grand Central Station
New York 17, New York

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Kingsbridge 6-5498
ASSISTANT: PHYLLIS GALICIAN
ULater 2-5770
CIRCULATION: SUNNY JENKINS
Millington 7-1500

The Metropolitan Stereo Club News is published in the interests of stereo information and education; for the benefit of MSC members and their friends in stereo throughout the country.

Permission is hereby granted to those who wish to make use of any of the information contained herein, providing that credit is given to the MSC News and the title and author of the article are mentioned.

Contributions are encouraged and we hope that this exchange of ideas will help to stimulate the interest of stereo enthusiasts everywhere. TYPED contributions should be addressed to: Miss Louise Jacobson, Editor, Apt. D6, 3871 Sedgwick Avenue, Bronx 63, New York. All copy accepted is subject to whatever adaptation and revision that may be necessary.

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MEMBER
1958



THE METROPOLITAN
CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL

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FACTS and FIGURES

Film: Bend or Buckle?

What causes film to bend or buckle? The answer is: Heat in projection. The heat causes the film to buckle because of expansion. Any matter tends to expand as it becomes warm. With a small piece of film this expansion is very slight, but with a film sealed to mask the expansion has no place to go at all, so the film buckles. Then, too, there is the problem of the natural curl of the film from being rolled in the original spool, rolled again as it goes through the camera onto take-up spool, and rolled from lab to you if you get your film uncut. Film should be reverse-rolled and allowed to set some hours before cutting, which will eliminate natural curl, or at least help considerably.

The heat to which a slide is subjected in projection has little bearing, if any, on the heat of the projection lamps or bulbs, either in radiated heat from lamp to slide, or convected heat of the projector itself. The heat that causes the trouble is the light heat rays from the bulb concentrated into the small area of focus from condenser lenses. This heat is similar to the light heat rays of a burning glass, which is simply an ordinary magnifying glass concentrating the sun's rays. The greater the concentration of light, the hotter that area becomes. High wattage movie projectors, where the concentration is much greater than in slide projectors, have little automatic fire doors between film and light source, so that if film stops the doors drop down instantly to prevent light from burning a hole in the film. This burning can take place in a matter of seconds. A very high wattage projector can blister and burn a film if exposed to the light long enough, even in glass mounts. With a low wattage projector no burning occurs and buckling of film is slow and slight if at all.

Blower-cooled projectors are not designed primarily to keep the slides cool, all claims or understandings to the contrary. Movement of cool air cannot eliminate concentrated light heat rays being focused from condensers. With a burning glass you can start a fire or smolder a piece of wood in a wind or in sub-zero weather—as long as you have the sunlight. Blower-cooled projectors tend to keep down radiated heat from lamp to body of projector, and convected heat from lamp house, etc., to other sections of the projector.

(Continued on page 4)

METROPOLITAN STEREO CLUB

MEETS SECOND
FRIDAY OF
EVERY MONTH
PUBLIC INVITED

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

U. N. Plaza—46th Street & 1st Avenue, N.Y.C.
2nd Floor

PROGRAM

for

AUG. 8th

7:00- "Get Together"

7:45- JUDGING The PSA
Traveling Salon

8:45- WINERY
Slide Competition
(details below)

PROGRAM DETAILS

The first portion of the August meeting will be devoted to the judging of the PSA Traveling Salon. Slides for this Salon were selected from the various PSA Stereo Clubs throughout the country. They will be top stereo slides. This is an event worth witnessing.

The second part of the program will be devoted to judging the slides taken by our members at the July Outdoor Meeting at the Brotherhood Winery. THEREFORE, all members who took slides at the Winery please bring them to the meeting for slide competition. No limit on the number of entries. Mr. Farrell of the Brotherhood Corporation will award bottles of wine as prizes.

A full report on the exciting, interesting and adventuresome July meeting will be made in the September paper along with the results of this August competition.

1958 EMDE Stereo Award SEQUENCES AND AWARDS

Cash...honors...fame—yours for a winning stereo slide sequence. Enter the Third Emde Award Contest. Begin planning and shooting your Emde Contest entry now! Send your entry between August 1 - 31 to Lee Hon, 2441 Webb Avenue, New York 68, New York.

ASSOCIATE

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Reading Matter -

The Macmillan Company has announced the publication of the FOCAL ENCYCLOPEDIA of PHOTOGRAPHY, featuring over 2,000 articles and written by 197 experts in 23 countries. It contains 400 photographs and more than 1,500 diagrams.

This 1,468 page volume will be sent on 10 days approval, without obligation. Further information from the Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, New York.